

## STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES

CHILDREN'S ADMINISTRATION

1115 Washington Street SE & P.O. Box 45710 & Olympia, WA 98504-5710

December 30, 2009

Dear Responsible Living Skill Program (RLSP) Provider:

I am writing to provide you with information about recent budget reductions to the Responsible Living Skills Program (RLSP). DSHS Secretary Susan N. Dreyfus and Assistant Secretary Denise Revels Robinson sent letters out discussing the difficult and serious reductions outlined by the Governor. If you have not received these messages, you can find them at the links provided at the end of this letter.

The Governor released her proposed budget on December 9, 2009, and this budget reduces funding for RLSP by 44 percent. To implement this change Children's Administration would like to meet with you to strategize new ways to continue providing RLSP placement and independent living services to adolescents while still keeping within the Governor's new budget.

We have set up a conference call to develop concrete recommendations for CA to achieve the necessary RLSP cost savings. The call is scheduled for:

- January 12, 2010 starting at 9:30 a.m.
- To participate, please call (360) 407-3780 and use the pin number 245867# to join

I want to thank you for your partnership and commitment to provide quality services to families in crisis. Children's Administration values the services you provide to improve the outcomes for the children and families we serve.

If you have questions after the conference call, please contact Rick Butt at <a href="rick.butt@dshs.wa.gov">rick.butt@dshs.wa.gov</a> or (206) 923-4891. You can also visit the DSHS website at

http://www.dshs.wa.gov/geninfo/SupplementalBudget.html and view the Secretary's message or the budget document itself. You can also view Assistant Secretary Denise Revels Robinson's message concerning the budget by clicking on this link

http://www.dshs.wa.gov/pdf/ca/LtrCommunityPartners121409.pdf.

Thank you for all that you do for children and families.

Sincerely,

Tammy Cordova Interim Director

Program & Practice Improvement Division